

For Specialized Service and Maintenance
of
MOTOR CARS and TRUCKS
CONSULT
THE SERVICE MANAGER
FAR EAST MOTORS
26 Nathan Road, Kowloon,
or
Telephone Service Kowloon 56849.

The Hongkong Telegraph

Dine
At the
P. G.
For
Reservations
Tel: 27880

VOL. II NO. 166 THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1947. Price 20 Cents

1,200 BELIEVED KILLED IN VIOLENT EXPLOSIONS

Troops On Active Service

Jerusalem, Apr. 16.
General Sir Alan Cunningham, Palestine High Commissioner, under a declaration officially gazetted tonight, invoked the Army to place all British forces in Palestine "on active service."

This is the first time that troops in Palestine have been placed "on active service" since the end of hostilities.

The effect of the declaration is that military discipline can be administered as though the troops are engaged with an enemy and that for certain classes of offences military justice is extended to civilians.

The main difference between this and statutory martial law is that it permits more summary methods of trial and punishment.

Meanwhile, tension is rising throughout Palestine tonight as British armed forces prepared for the Irgun Zvai Leumi's threatened "sevenfold" reprisals for the execution this morning of Dov Gruner and three other Jewish terrorists.

British troops and police throughout the Holy Land have been alerted since dawn and the curfew blankets almost 350,000 of Palestine's estimated 600,000 Jewish inhabitants.

FUNERAL GLOOM

No vehicle except police and military cars on duty—may move after sunset and a funeral gloom hangs over the whole country.

Any reprisals against British forces, or British civilians, will be followed by military rule—and withdrawal of civil government from areas in which attacks occur, it was learned authoritatively.

The Palestine Government has scrapped the term "statutory martial law" for "controlled areas." But the provisions of statutory martial law remain unchanged and are to be imposed at any time.

There is the strongest resentment throughout Jewish Palestine and especially among the religious communities at the fact that no Rabbi was present when Gruner and three other condemned men walked to the scaffold in Acre prison today.

The Palestine Government's explanation is that the Jewish chaplain who was asked to be present refused. Jewish religious leaders say that the man described as chaplain was a lay leader with no official standing.

Opinions expressed today by Jews of all classes ranged from "cold-blooded murder" to sarcastic "bad political timing."—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

Mr Dalton's Bombshell

ASIDE from his estimated revenue and expenditure figures, which are staggering illustrations of the nation's new capacity to pay and spend, Mr. Hugh Dalton has delivered himself of one of the most astonishing financial statements yet made by an English Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the face of restricted luxury and general consumer goods—limiting spending ability—the Treasury has been able to produce out of British taxpayers during the financial year just ended £180,000,000 more than was anticipated, while the estimated deficit has been reduced by £157,000,000. Jubilantly Mr. Dalton described this result as "not a bad starting point for today's excursion." The excursion developed into a real pleasure trip when the Chancellor proceeded to estimate a £248,000,000 surplus for 1947-48. But the speech was not all honey. In the first place, expectation of a general reduction in income tax did not materialize, although concessions have been made that will take three-quarters of a million people out of the direct taxation class; secondly, Mr. Dalton delivered a solar plexus punch to all sections of the nation by increasing tobacco duties 50 per cent, which will have the brutal effect of halving retail prices of cigarettes to 3s 4d for 20 and advancing the cost of pipe tobacco by 1s 2d an ounce. This measure, apparently, is intended to try and

More Police For H.K.

London, Apr. 16.
Additional staff has been engaged for the Hongkong Police and additional Nursing Staff is being engaged, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, said in the House of Commons today.

Other measures to cope with the increased population of Hongkong include modernisation of police equipment and intensive training of new recruits, the establishment of temporary hospitals, increase of facilities for public inoculation and the setting up of a social welfare department. —Reuter.

Flogging For Robbery With Violence

Justice George McClure of the Old Bailey court, twice imposed one of the "oldest penalties under British law to-day when he ordered four men and a youth of 17 to be flogged for robbing with violence.

In two separate cases, a total of 63 lashes was ordered.

The youth, Ronald Bell, was sent to a reform school for 12 months and ordered to be given 12 strokes of the birch for his part in helping two men beat George Judges, crippled shopkeeper, in an attempt to extort money from the victim. Peter Johnson, negro seaman, was sentenced to 15 strokes and 21 months "in prison," while William Knight, soldier, received 12 strokes and a nine-month sentence.

When Mr Justice McClure heard that Eric Hanson, labourer, and Alfred Foy, domestic servant, had beaten Mrs. Emily Henrie, 78-year-old widow, when robbing her of her paltry savings, he ordered both men flogged. Hanson got 12 lashes of the "cat o' nine tails" and one year in goal, while Foy was sentenced to 12 strokes of the birch and nine months. —United Press.

Stern Sentences

London, Apr. 16.
Justice George McClure of the Old Bailey court, twice imposed one of the "oldest penalties under British law to-day when he ordered four men and a youth of 17 to be flogged for robbing with violence.

In two separate cases, a total of 63 lashes was ordered.

The youth, Ronald Bell, was sent to a reform school for 12 months and ordered to be given 12 strokes of the birch for his part in helping two men beat George Judges, crippled shopkeeper, in an attempt to extort money from the victim. Peter Johnson, negro seaman, was sentenced to 15 strokes and 21 months "in prison," while William Knight, soldier, received 12 strokes and a nine-month sentence.

When Mr Justice McClure heard that Eric Hanson, labourer, and Alfred Foy, domestic servant, had beaten Mrs. Emily Henrie, 78-year-old widow, when robbing her of her paltry savings, he ordered both men flogged. Hanson got 12 lashes of the "cat o' nine tails" and one year in goal, while Foy was sentenced to 12 strokes of the birch and nine months. —United Press.

Texas City Devastated After Nitrate-Laden Ship Blows Up

Texas City, Texas, Apr. 17.
A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION IN A NITRATE-LADEN SHIP TOUCHED OFF A CHAIN OF BLASTS THAT KILLED AN ESTIMATED 1,200 PERSONS, INJURED MORE THAN 1,000 AND DESTROYED OR DAMAGED MUCH OF THIS GULF COAST PORT CITY OF 15,000.

According to Mr G. B. Finley, State Highway Commission maintenance engineer, property loss will run into millions. He said he had received reports from his crews indicating "around 1,200 dead." Finley said his information came from the director of crews clearing away debris and searching for bodies in the explosion area.

The blast shook the Texas coast for more than 110 miles. Windows were shattered at Galveston, 11 miles across the bay. Many fled from Galveston buildings thinking a major earthquake was occurring.

The original explosion occurred aboard the French ship, Grand Camp. The second explosion blasted the nearby multi-million dollar Monsanto Chemical plant. Others followed, levelling stone buildings in the centre of the city.

Fires raged freely as the explosions wrecked the water system. Poisonous gas was reported to be infiltrating the city.

The National Guard was called out to assist in rescue work and to prevent looting, while relief workers poured in from major Texas cities. Estimates of the casualties are highly variable. Finley's estimate of 1,200 dead compared with 350 by the Director of Public Safety, Mr. Homer Garrison, whose estimate was based on reports from his working crews.

The Coast Guard placed the death toll between 100 and 1,000, and the injured between 2,000 and 3,000.

The Mid-Western Red Cross Headquarters reported that 500 bodies had been removed from the Texas City explosion area and more were being found constantly. The explosion in the Grand Camp followed a fire which had attracted

hundreds of curious onlookers at the docks.

All aboard the vessel were reported killed.

The heaviest material loss is believed to be at the Monsanto Chemical plant.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation reported from Washington that its \$1,000,000 tin shelter at Texas City—the only tin refinery in the Western hemisphere—apparently was undamaged.—Associated Press.

City Becomes A Raging Holocaust

Galveston, Texas, Apr. 16.
Two terrific explosions—apparently at Texas City—rocked Galveston today. Another report stated, however, that two terrific explosions had occurred on board the vessel "City of Rouen" and two hours after the explosion, reports still conflicted about which ship was involved in the blasts.

A report by the Houston Texas Chronicle said that the paper had been informed that at least 75 were killed and 100 injured in an explosion aboard a ship at Texas City.

A "holocaust is raging in the city according to the Texas City police chief, who tonight sent an appeal for all possible aid.

"There is no way of estimating the killed and injured," he said, "as hundreds of people were working on the dock at the time of the explosion. Many people are walking in the streets in a daze."

A civil official at Houston said that Texas City officials have sent a wireless message to Galveston that police gas was reported to be infiltrating into the city following a ship explosion.

Meanwhile, the Houston Chronicle said that 75 dead were reported by a Utility Company official at Texas City. He was quoted as saying: "There are 75 dead at one clinic alone." The Chronicle described it as the worst industrial disaster in Texas history.

Reports from Galveston reaching New York said that Coast Guards reported that explosions had occurred one hour and a quarter after an outbreak of fire in the ship Grand Camp. Coast Guard boats rushed across the bay to the scene to battle the flames.

A Houston official also said that the Texas City authorities had asked for all available gas masks. They had also requested "several hundred more stretchers and for all available morphine in this part of the country."

American Red Cross headquarters in Washington have received estimates of deaths ranging from 100 to 1,000 and it is feared that the toll may even be higher. Long-distance

PREPARING FOR WORST

Copenhagen, Apr. 16.
An official report said today that King Christian's condition had further deteriorated today and that he was "now and then somewhat unclear" and was dozing at times.

Reliable sources said Danish Cabinet members had been asked to remain at their homes. This was interpreted generally as an indication that bad news regarding the King's condition was anticipated.

After publication of the afternoon bulletin, the population was prepared for the worst.—United Press.

Swearing Off Smoking

Public Reaction To Increased Duties

London, Apr. 17.
Britons by the millions swore off smoking on Wednesday and then made the rounds of the tobacco shops for a final nicotine binge—before new, highest-history prices went into effect.

Beginning on Thursday the package of 20 cigarettes that cost sixpence in 1914 and one shilling in 1939 will set the smoker back three shillings and four pence—a shilling increase in 48 hours.

"Nine out of ten of my customers say they will stop smoking at midnight tonight," said a Fleet Street tobacconist who sold his day's stock of cigarettes before 11 a.m.

"Not one in a thousand will really stop," his wife predicted. "They say they will but wait till the old craving comes upon them. I hope you don't swear off," she told her husband "you're bad tempered enough now."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Hugh Dalton, who caused the price increase by raising the duty on imported tobacco in order to cut dollar spending was scolded by such diverse newspapers as the sedate Manchester Guardian and the Communist Daily Worker.

"Extortionate," the Worker cried in denouncing "rationing by means of the purse." The labour party's official organ the Daily Herald said there was no doubt the rise would be unpopular but hoped most people would realise the need for smoking less.

Mr. Dalton who smokes cigars and will pay more for them hereafter had a tip for people who were mad at him: "Work off your grudge by knocking off smoking altogether," he said.—Associated Press.

TWO STRIKES END

Calcutta, Apr. 17.
The 86-day-old strike of the Calcutta tram workers was called off by unanimous vote today.

Simultaneously the 24-day-old strike of Bombay's electric supply and tramways was officially ended.

The Calcutta walkout involved 8,000 workers and affected nearly 1,000,000 daily passengers.

The work stoppage arose out of a demand for a "living wage" and persisted despite threats of dismissal and legal action by the company and government officials.—Associated Press.

Chang Chun Succeeds Soong As Premier Of China

Nanking, Apr. 17.
General Chang Chun became Premier of China today. Chang served on two committees seeking an end to China's civil war. He advocates building up China by peaceful industrialization.

Chang succeeds T. V. Soong who resigned on March 1 under mounting criticism that his policies contributed to China's economic crisis.

Chang was governor of Szechwan province. He has been a friend of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek since they were classmates at a Japanese military academy.

Chang reportedly was in line for the premiership as long as 14 months ago when some factions said Soong was partially responsible for blocking the effectiveness of the government Communist truce.

Chang was a member of General George C. Marshall's Committee of Three that brought about a truce agreement.

Chang also was a member of the committee to effect the government Army reorganization under the truce terms.

Marshall & Stalin Get Nowhere

Moscow, Apr. 16.
Authoritative sources said today that Generalissimo Stalin and General George Marshall had "accomplished nothing" in their face-to-face effort at the Kremlin on Tuesday night to break the Big Four deadlock.

Referring to the stalemate of the Council of Foreign Ministers on such vital German issues as reparations, economic unity and the Four Power disarmament treaty, an authoritative informant said, "The situation has not changed one iota from before the meeting. It's accomplished nothing."

Asked whether that meant the Moscow conference would end abruptly, the informant said he did not think so. He said the Ministers would need several days to go through the Austrian treaty even though the final agreement on it may not be possible here.

A limited report of the conference between Stalin and Marshall leaked out despite Marshall's "orders" to the American delegation to say nothing to the press until he himself decided to say something.

IRRECONCILABLE

More than 12 hours later, Marshall did agree to tell the press that he talked with Stalin for 90 minutes and that he had asked for an appointment last week. The Kremlin set it for last night.

An authoritative source indicated that a wide range of subjects pertaining to problems of the Big Four Council was discussed.

The authoritative informant indicated that in the end neither Marshall nor Stalin had budged an inch from the American and Russian positions taken in the Council meetings. Now, as far as Marshall is concerned, the next move is up to Russia. He thinks that either the Soviets must make concessions to provide a basis for negotiations or the conference will end without any concrete accomplishment beyond an exposition of view of various powers.

That was the situation as presented by responsible quarters which "guessed" that the conference would end in the latter part of next week. Some others, however, foresaw the possibility that the meeting would break up this weekend.—United Press.

BRITISH FLOOD RELIEF FUND

Donations Received

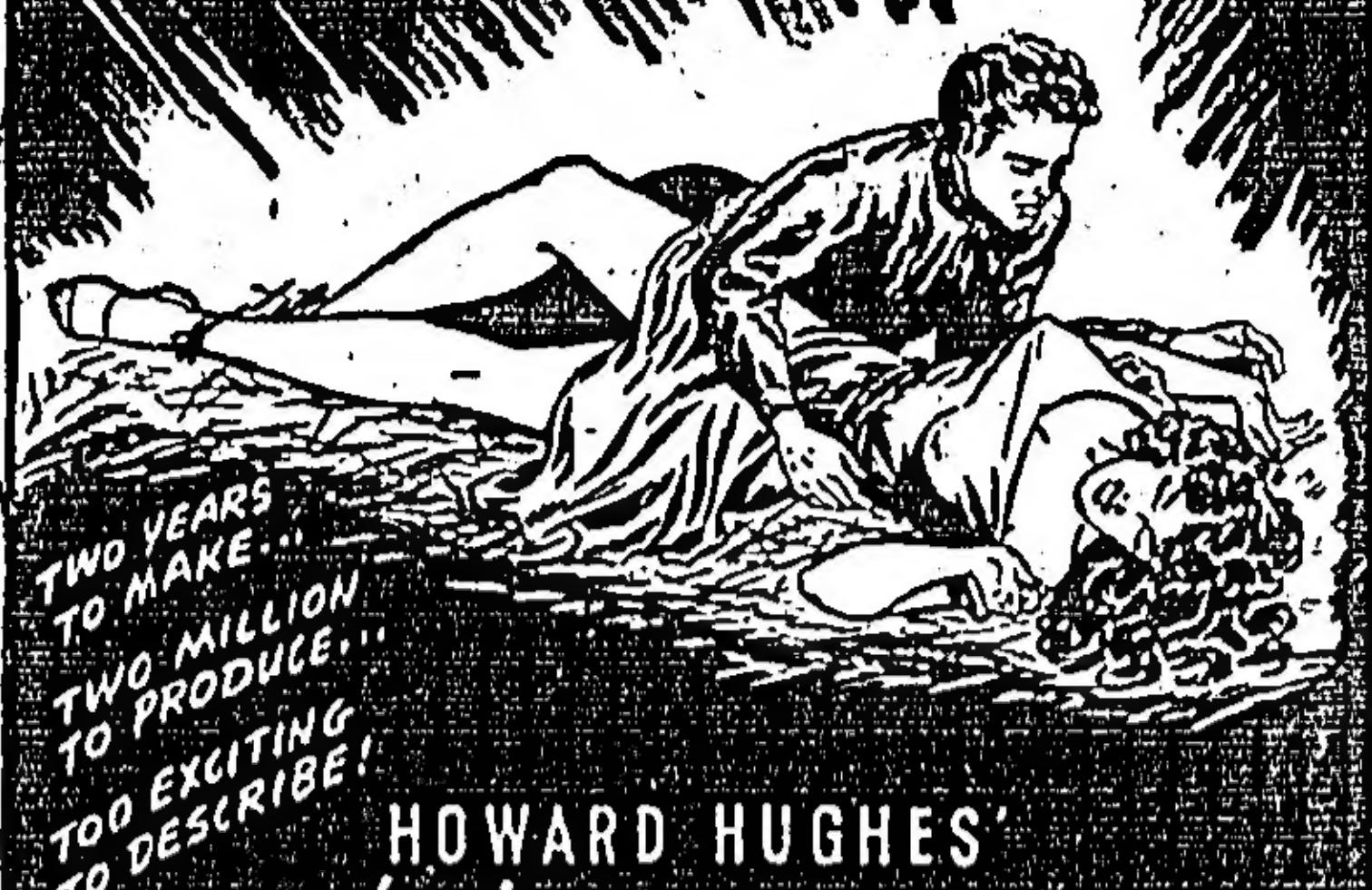
Already acknowledged (per "H.K. Telegraph")	\$110,373.00
In memory of "W.J.W."	10.00
Li Po Chun	100.00
Li and Mrs. W. H. Jacobs	50.00
G. Forster	25.00
O.S.	50.00
Li Koon Chun	200.00
Li Po Chun	100.00
John D. Hutchinson & Co., Ltd.	1,000.00
Staff Club, Chinese Maritime Customs, Kowloon and District	100.00
Yu Hing Co., Ltd.	250.00
Ma and Mrs. Fung Ping	200.00
Mme N. du Breuil	100.00
A. Dransfield & Co.	100.00
Lam Yuet (memory of my wife)	10.00
Liebermann Waechli & Co.	500.00
Yuk Ping	10.00
Tyeb & Co.	200.00
F.D.H.	50.00
The Asia Company	200.00
Fung Keong Rubber Manufacturing, Ltd.	400.00
Star Tobacco Co., Ltd.	100.00
Mr and Mrs H. W. Mills	50.00
L.A. Sterling	100.00
D.C.R.E. Hongkong Officers' Mess	150.00
Mr and Mrs Hugh Braga	50.00
Mr and Mrs J. Wolfe	100.00
Union Waterboat Co., Ltd.	500.00
John Manners & Co., Ltd.	3,000.00
Anon.	25.00
	\$118,200.00

Donations should be addressed to the General Manager, South China Morning Post, Morning Post Building, Hongkong. Cheques should be made out to "British Flood Relief Fund." For the purpose of acknowledgment will, donors kindly indicate their names in Block Letters.

LEE THEATRE

TOWN BOOKING OFFICE
W. HAKING & CO. ALEXANDRA BLDG., GIL. FL.
BETWEEN 11.00 A.M. AND 8.00 P.M. DAILY

Opening To-Day At 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

THE CRAZIER A MAN
IS ABOUT A WOMAN...
THE CRAZIER HE THINKS...
AND THE CRAZIER HE DOES!HOWARD HUGHES
during PRODUCTION

The Outlaw

Introducing JANE RUSSELL

JACK BUETEL · THOMAS MITCHELL · WALTER HUSTON

CENTRAL

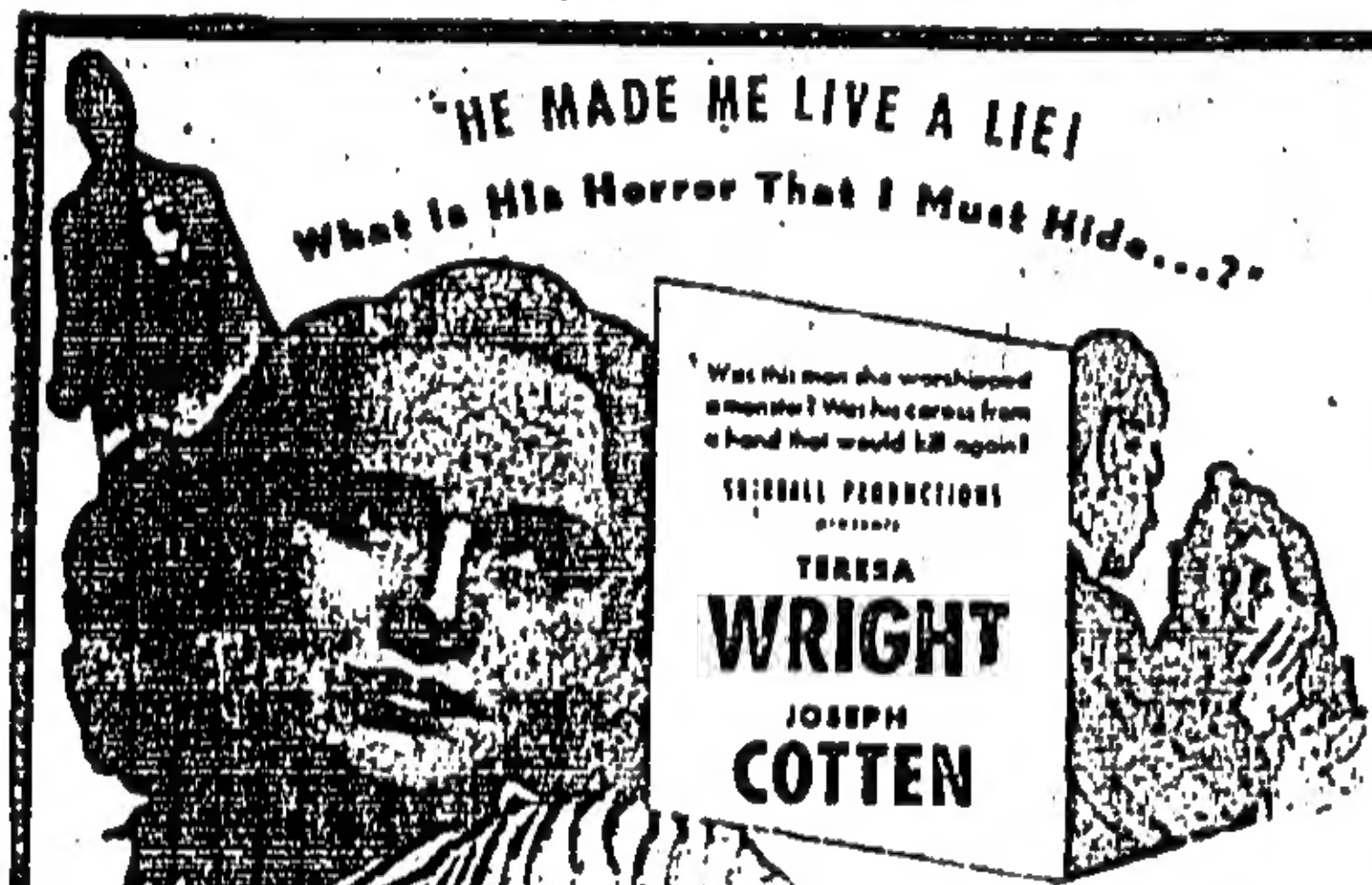
ALHAMBRA

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

CENTRAL: Extra Performance at 12.30 P.M.

TO-DAY ONLY

HE MADE ME LIVE A LIE!
What is His Horror That I Must Hide...?TERESA
WRIGHT
JOSEPH
COTTENALFRED HITCHCOCK'S
Shadow of a Doubt

MACDONALD CAREY

PATRICIA COLLINGS · HENRY TRAVERS · WALLACE FORD

Directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK

Only Director ALFRED HITCHCOCK could weave such a suspenseful suspenseful suspenseful

OPENING TO-MORROW
The Whole Heroic Story of the
RAF's 'Foreign Legion'!INTERNATIONAL
SQUADRON

A Warner Bros. Hit, with

RONALD REAGAN · OLYMPE BRADNA · WILLIAM LUNDIGAN

JOAN PERRY · REGINALD DENNY · Directed by LEWIS SEILER

ORIENTAL

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.20-7.20-9.20 P.M.

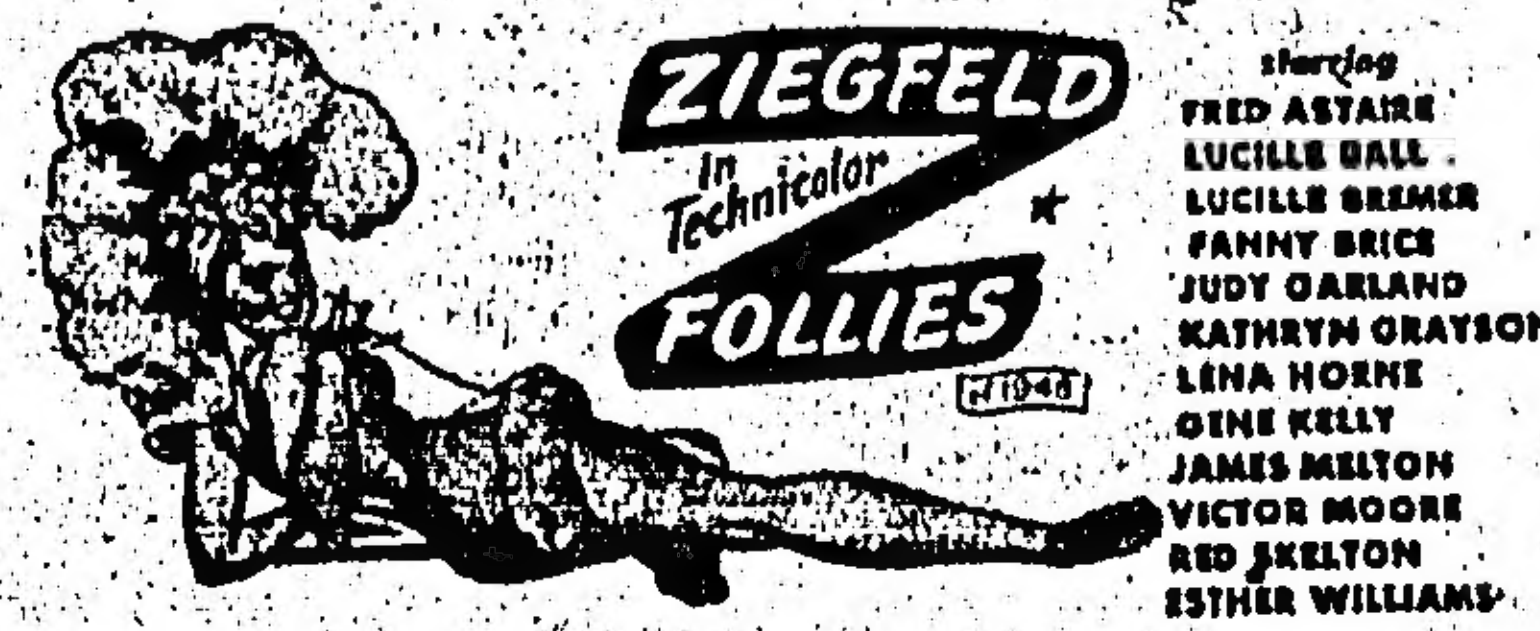
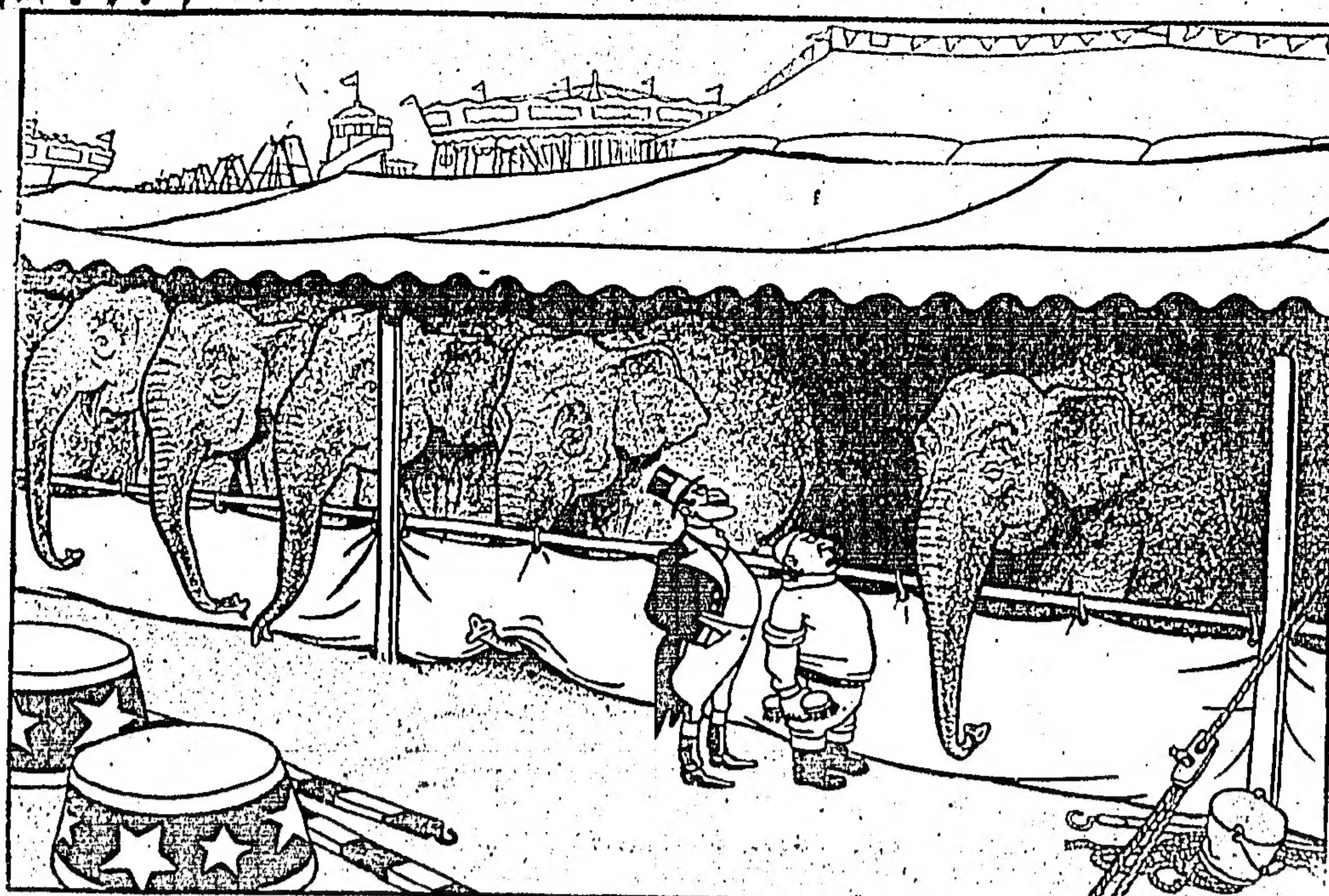
A Story of Love, Adventure and 'Exquisite Music'

STEWART GRANGER · PHYLLIS CALVERT

in "MAGIC BOW"

with JEAN KENT · DENNIS PRICE · CECIL PARKER

COMMENCING TO-MORROW

ZIEGFELD
FOLLIESstarring
FRED ASTAIRE
LUCILLE BALL
FANNY BRICE
JUDY GARLAND
KATHY GRAYSON
LENA HORNE
OTIS KELLY
JAMES MONTGOMERY
VICTOR MOORE
RED SKELTON
ESTHER WILLIAMS

"Effie, are you the one who's been telling the others not to go on unless the management recognise your union?"

THE PLIGHT OF
BRITAIN'S HOMELESS

BRITAIN'S squatters—homeless persons who boldly enter and occupy vacant living quarters without permission—have not been in the news lately, but the plight of the homeless lingers on.

A cure is planned, but it is still only a plan—on paper.

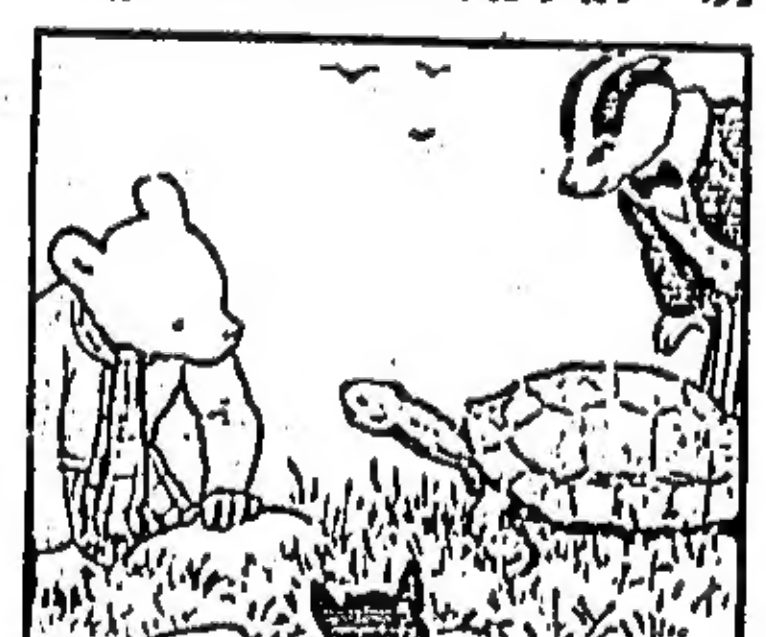
This plan is to undertake a vast housing programme—one likely to take years to complete—to provide a home for every family. Meanwhile, the need remains desperate. It is best illustrated by a look into the miserable conditions of the homeless.

Squatters brought the festering sore to a head last summer when they occupied abandoned army camps. They dramatised the situation by taking over several of London's so-called luxury flats—until a high court decision put a halt to that movement.

Four men and one woman, all Communists, were convicted on conspiracy charges stemming from their leadership in the September march on the flats. Each was sentenced to two years' probation.

JUSTICE Winifred Norton Stable, in his decision, said: "If I thought you exploited the miseries of these people and the housing shortage for the purpose of self-advertisement or boosting any political party—I care not what I should have sent you to prison."

Rupert & the New Pat—31



George, the tortoise, won't take part in the picnic except to nibble a bit of apple. "We must find something for you," says Rupert. "Well, buttercups are delicious," says George. "Have you ever tried buttercups and a little cheese? With perhaps a bit of chocolate and lettuce as second course? There's a meal for you!" "I've never eaten buttercups," says Rupert. "I'm sure they'd be bad for me, but if you like them so much we must all look for some."

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

"I am satisfied that what stimulated your action was a very genuine sense of distress at the predicament in which these people found themselves."

MANY squatters disclaimed connection with the Communist Party. Theirs was the story of thousands of ex-servicemen and their wives and civilian families who were displaced by the war.

This sociological problem has been described by Colonel Gordon Larking, National Vice-President of the British Legion, as one "as grave as was the rearmament problem of 1940."

The remaining London squatters—about 75—are living in curtain-partitioned cubicles in the dormitory section of Alexandra House, a rambling former orphanage in St Pancras Borough. Thousands of others are barely existing in squalid cold huts in deserted camps.

By Richard Tompkins

BUSHY Park, near Teddington, Middlesex, former headquarters of General Eisenhower and of the U.S. Army Air Forces, has 92 families living in 85 huts. They have formed a Squatters' Association to manage their difficulties. Leonard Mitchell, ex-Royal Marine and veteran of five years of war service, is the secretary.

And Mitchell, with his ailing wife, three daughters and two sons ranging from seven to 14 years, speaks eloquently of the forgotten servicemen.

He pays his way by collecting rents at the camp, from each family, arranging for milk or fuel to be delivered, distributing mail, fixing electric fuses and doing other odd jobs.

Frank Barley, a veteran of North Africa and Italy, who was demobilised after five and a half years of service, went to Bushy Park with his wife and two children. It was too crowded in his parents' four-room cottage. His wife cooks in a communal kitchen and carries the food through the cold air to their hut, shared with other families whose quarters stand behind curtain-partitions.

"Morale is very poor among us soldiers in what we've come back to," said Barley. "How old will I be, and how old will our children be, when we do get a house?"

He blames the Council (county administrative bodies) for present conditions and thinks they should be nationalised.

THOMAS John Gunter served six and a half years in the artillery; his wife four and a half years in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. They went to Bushy Park when the land-

lady of their one-room apartment objected to their new baby and "the diapers." They had searched a year for that room.

Arthur Jackson, a neighbour in the next hut, and his wife were "bombed out," took another house, and had to leave when the owner returned from the war. They went to Bushy Park hoping their Council would find them a home before the camp is pulled down.

Says Jackson: "I don't see why the Government can't do the same for civilians as it did for troops. In the war, when barracks were erected in a few weeks."

VACIE Camp, in Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, is the squatters' ground for many homeless ex-servicemen. After six months, they are faced with a threatened increase in rent and they are protesting it.

Squatters at Oldhurst, Hunts, have been given notice to leave. The Ministry of Works says it wants the buildings for German prisoners. The Spartan conditions under which families have been living in a camp near Birmingham are blamed for the deaths of six babies since last August, half of them in December. In the bleak wooden huts, with leaky roofs and cold draughts, the majority of the children have suffered from colds and pneumonia.

Families living in "refrigerator" huts at Durham, where icy winds whistle through cracks, have found staying in bed the only way to keep warm. They have been advised to put their younger children in rest homes until the warmer weather.

IN Alexandra House in London, it is warmer. The rare comfort of central heating is in this house, but the outlook of the homeless is the same. Oliver John Battley and his wife, Nancy, are waiting without hope for a place where they can have some privacy in their lives. Battley came out of Dunkirk with head trouble, and took a job as a resident chauffeur to Lord Pender. But the old chauffeur came back and reclaimed his job. Then the same thing happened again on another job.

VITAMIN B6 MAY
CURE CANCER

TWO young research workers at the Anderson Hospital for Cancer Research in Houston, Texas, are taking part in the fight against the great killer with a study of how a vitamin works in forming new body tissue.

Dr Fritz Schlenk, biochemist, and his assistant, Miss Aline Fisher, report an important discovery concerning how vitamin B6 functions in protein synthesis, or more simply, how worn-out body cells are replaced by new growth.

Dr Schlenk said science had understood only how three of the 12 known vitamins worked in bodily processes, but this recent discovery in Houston adds a fourth along with vitamins B1, B2 and nicotinic acid.

THE Anderson Hospital researchers point out that their discovery is much more than one which merely will add to a knowledge of vitamins, because the growth of cells is linked directly with the study of the cause of cancer.

"If we want to control cancer growth," Dr Schlenk said, "we must know every detail about it."

He said the goal was still far distant, but "we hope we have learned something here that will be of value in the fight."

Dr Schlenk, in his experiments with vitamin B6, hopes to discover just what makes cancerous tissue grow. That may be the key to the eventual prevention and cure of the disease.

The Houston scientist said the biochemist regards a tumour growth as a special growth which is identical with the growth of normal tissue. But normal tissue growth is controlled by "regulators" within the body, whereas tumour growth runs rampant when the "regulators" are raising or not functioning properly.

DR Schlenk was at work on cancer research before 1940 at the University of Stockholm in Sweden. He has been studying vitamins at the Anderson Hospital in Houston for the past three years.

The young scientist ventured the prediction that the conquest of cancer would approximate the cost of the first atomic bomb, or about U.S.\$2,000,000,000.

However, even if success does not come at once, Dr Schlenk said a vast amount of knowledge nevertheless would be accumulated about nutrition, immunity, hormones and metabolism.—United Press.

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

ONCE more a hush fell on the countryside. Crew and passengers were already in the rocket Utopia and the moment of launching drew nearer.

So great was the suspense that several women fainted, and even men held their breath. Then the tiny hat of Strabismus appeared out of the fore-window. He was about to give the signal for a new era to begin, an era of peace, satellite towns, prosperity, nationalised housing, democracy, etc., etc., etc. (See Hansard, passing). Then, as the moment approached, the crowd raised its eyes to the sky, for all had been warned that if they looked at the rocket they would see nothing, so swift would be its passage into the empyrean. A minute passed, and then a boy who had cheated, and kept his eye on the rocket shouted, "Owl! Look!"

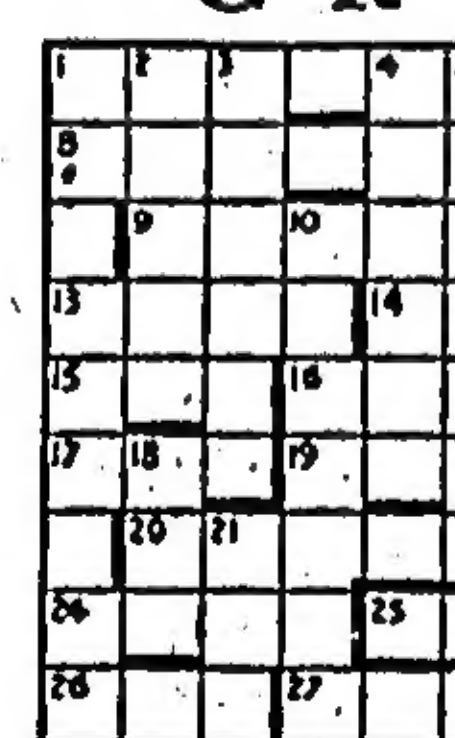
Wey, hey, and up she rises! TWENTY million eyes switched from the sky to the ground, and there, 15 feet in the air, was Utopia, sailing slowly upwards, far more slowly than sound, like a gigantic kite. Exclamations of incredulity broke out. In a leisurely fashion the rocket drifted higher and higher.

After ten minutes she was about 500 feet up, and still climbing. The crowd prepared to spend the day watching her, when suddenly she gained speed and, leaving a trail of filthy smoke behind her, dashed upwards and in four seconds was a mere speck. A cheer rose from a myriad throats. The mayor, howling like a wolf through a megaphone, was heard to say, "A new era has begun. Space is conquered. The speck in the sky disappeared."

Odd occurrence

TWELVE men recently thought of a good way to smuggle musical instruments into England. When their ship had berthed and the passengers were heaving and shoving in the Customs shed, the men lined up at the foot of the gangway, and began to play Ruff's "Cavatina." They forced the ship as though expecting a distinguished visitor. Who did not appear, they formed up, and marched away through the town. Everybody at the dock thought they were the town band. After nightfall they took a train to London. If you don't believe that, you won't believe anything, and I am the last to blame you. (Enter the fairies, Grogg blossom and Quartbottle.)

CROSSWORD



Across
1 and 7. Three things you are exhorted to do, in song, for happy life (8, 8, 8)
6. It was greatly favoured by many in the States before the war. (9)
9. The boy to work in the hay-field. (3)
11. City that stands on its own river and adjoins another. (4)
12. Under-act growth. (5)
13. A sandy height. (5)
14. Merit for a change. (5)

17. Sounds like a horse denial. (3)
18. The age of the race gangs. (5)
19. Retinue but not on lives. (5)
20. Important know that it has a habit of getting one out. (3)
21. Requite. (4)
22. Possibly the result of that morning cigarette. (5)
23. Space. (3)
24. The plant milfoil. (5)
25. Often used as an adjective to indicate speed. (9)
26. Come forth! (3)
27. Useful tennis stroke. (6)
28. Small account in the L.N.E.R. (3)
29. Oriental resting place? (7)
30. The popular name for a popular song. (7)
31. Has the makings of a real day. (7)
32. Victims in the U.S.A. (4)
33. The fate of 12 possibly. (3)
34. For return you can get material. (3)
35. Self. (3)
Solution of Yesterday's puzzle—Across: 1. Potassium; 2. Oriental; 3. Grand; 4. City; 5. Under-act; 6. Merit; 7. Merit; 8. Merit; 9. Merit; 10. Merit; 11. Merit; 12. Merit; 13. Merit; 14. Merit; 15. Merit; 16. Merit; 17. Merit; 18. Merit; 19. Merit; 20. Merit; 21. Merit; 22. Merit; 23. Merit; 24. Merit; 25. Merit; 26. Merit; 27. Merit; 28. Merit; 29. Merit; 30. Merit; 31. Merit; 32. Merit; 33. Merit; 34. Merit; 35. Merit.

NANCY Quick Change Artist



By Ernie Bushmiller

When You Feel Tired
and Restless
take
Elliott's Nerve
and
Brain Tonic
On Sale at All Dispensaries



Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

Lois Leeds gives you some worthwhile hair notes.

HAIR NOTES

Your hair colour should be complemented and flattered by your hair accessories. Don't ruin the appearance of your blonde tresses by investing in dark combs. Don't destroy the Charm of Silver Hair by using pins and barrettes of dull gold. Match your hairpins, barrettes, clips and combs to the shade of your hair—it will be prettier!

Use hot oil for lubrication and to achieve soft, silky hair. Before a liquid soapless shampoo, with a hair conditioner added, part the hair and apply the hot oil with small pieces of absorbent cotton. Continue to part the hair into sections and apply the oil until the entire scalp has been covered.

If your permanent has grown out and the ends hang and look ragged, try using a soapless shampoo, the conditioning action will leave your hair more manageable. Then roll the ends on curlers or set them in tight pin curls.

And remember—your comb and brush should be scrupulously clean.

Minute Makeup by GABRIELLE



Whether in your office or your home it is important to be well groomed! Those who wear glasses sometimes forget to clean them often enough. Get into the habit of keeping your glasses bright and shining by cleaning them with a good quality witch hazel. You can also use it to clean your face, freshen up your hair and cool off your hot, perspiring hands.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Look at the swell mark I got in arithmetic, Mom—guess it's because Pop's been too busy every night figuring his income tax to help me with my homework!"

Chinese And Western Music Don't Blend Played Simultaneously

BY ROY ESSOYAN

Shanghai, Apr. 15.

Shanghai music lovers, who before and during the war supported a symphony orchestra recognised as the finest in the Far East, are wearing black this season.

During the past few months they have seen, in rapid succession, the passing of their 54-man symphony and three foreign-language radio stations broadcasting classical music.

Today, if they want music, they can tune in on government-operated XORA and get double their money's worth—another Chinese station somehow operates on the same wavelength! The latter station plays classical Chinese pieces which, according to most listeners, do not blend well with Western music when played simultaneously.

An for recordings, in the words of one erstwhile concert-goer with a fast-fading sense of humour:

"If I had a good record-player in Shanghai to-day I'd listen to some good music, if I had some good records."

Good records are scarce. A good record-player is something even Santa Claus can't afford in Shanghai. And to send for recordings from the United States is more than most Shanghaiers—snowed in under import restrictions, exchange regulations, surcharges and luxury taxes—are willing to attempt.

Recorded Concerts

Two local organisations, recognising the need, have started regular

recorded concerts for the benefit of the public. The cultural department of the United States Information Service holds a fortnightly concert in its auditorium in downtown Hamilton House. The Foreign YMCA provides "music from the masters" every Friday evening for members, friends and—unofficially—friends of friends.

Schools and private clubs hold occasional recitals with amateur talent, but they are few and far between, and the public as a whole is not invited.

Today, the public as a whole can't help looking back with regret on its municipal orchestra, which survived the Japanese occupation and 23 pre-war years of persistent criticism at the annual foreign taxpayers' meeting—to die after a year of Chinese administration.

Volunteer Origin

Built up from a volunteer brass band at the end of the first world war by the late Maestro Mario Paci, the orchestra was adopted by the Japanese when they walked in after Pearl Harbour.

Throughout the occupation the programmes had a strong Japanese flavour, and their most ardent defender was a former Japanese cabaret band leader then serving in the Japanese Army press bureau. But, in between classical creations from Tokyo, they did play Beethoven, Mozart and Tchaikovsky.—Associated Press.

Three Who Affect History

The course of history often depends upon the health of one man. This is a truism in wartime, but it also holds good in these days of unsettled peace, notably in three cases.

These three are Generalissimo Stalin, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and General MacArthur. All are aging men—Stalin and MacArthur each 67; Chiang 60. The disability of any one of them could have a major effect on the lives of millions.

With Stalin this is obvious. Sometime ago the merest rumour that he was ill made world headlines, and finally brought a tart denial from Russian officials. For good or ill, things will not be the same when Stalin ceases to rule the U.S.S.R. The same is true of Chiang, crisis-ridden though his government already is.

MacArthurland

MacArthur's place in this vital galaxy may not be so evident to everybody.

For a conquered people some 80,000,000 strong, the Japanese give little trouble. MacArthur is in a unique position. There is evidence that, consciously or otherwise, the Japanese have mentally installed him in place of their Emperor, and his word is law accordingly.—Associated Press.

FOLK DANCES WIN WIDE POPULARITY

A series of illustrated volumes on the folk dances of Europe, and the costumes, songs and music which accompany them, is being published in Britain under the auspices of the Royal Academy of Dancing and the Ling Physical Education Association. The editor, Violet Alford, has an international reputation as a folk dance authority.

This publication comes at a time when there is a growing revival of interest in Britain in the country's national dances. There were always the specialists in folk dancing, but now it is becoming generally popular as a recreation, and folk dance evenings are held in many towns and villages.

For people like the simplicity of the earlier dances, which can be learned in an evening without first going to classes. They like the sociability of them. Cecil Sharp House, London headquarters of the English Folk Dance and Song Society, organises fortnightly dancing evenings. At these Douglas Kennedy, Cecil Sharp's successor as director of the Society, acts as "caller," instructing the dancers in the steps and pattern of the dances.

Last year, at Stratford, home of Shakespeare, where the Society used regularly to hold a summer school, a festival was organised. There were competing Morris and Sword teams in full regalia, fiddlers and fools and country dancing in the streets and parks. It was indeed a return to the days of "Merric England."

BOASTER GAOLED FOR 3 YEARS

A man said by the police to have been "most boastful" about imaginary black market and gambling transactions will spend the next three years in penal servitude.

That was the sentence passed at Liverpool Assizes recently on a former REME sergeant, Frederick Roger Campbell, aged 27, of Lawton-road, Liverpool, for trying to gas his aunt.

The jury found him not guilty of attempting to murder her by giving her chocolates and coffee poisoned with prussic acid.

Campbell denied all the allegations. He said Mrs. Dora Hubbard, a prosecution witness, with whom he had been living, had suggested that he should kill his 77-year-old aunt to get money he expected under her will.

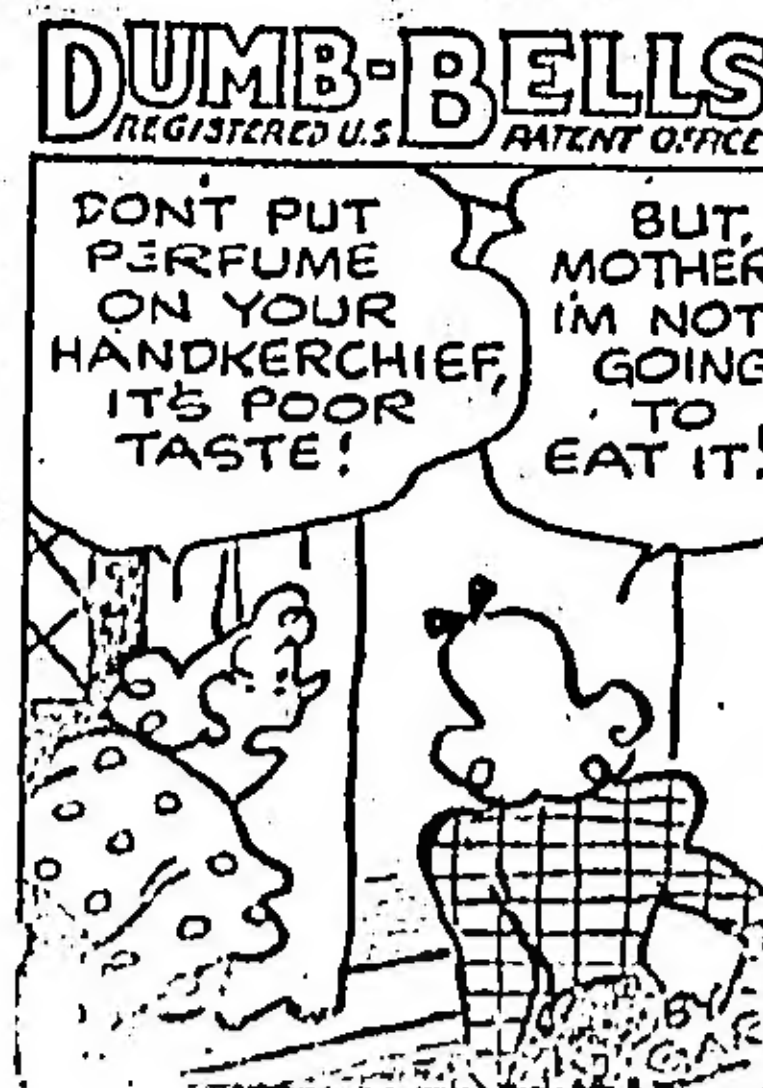
When he and Mrs. Hubbard were in the park, they saw some toad-stools and Mrs. Hubbard, he alleged, asked him if they would be of any use to kill his aunt. "But I was disgusted," said Campbell, "but I made the poison because if I had not I should have to admit I had been boasting about previous poison attempts which were untrue."

"As A Joke"

Campbell admitted that in a letter to his father he said that just after his aunt had been gassed he joked about it to Mrs. Hubbard and said he had done it.

After the verdict, Dr. J. H. Murdoch told Mr. Justice Singleton that Campbell was not mentally defective, but had developed a limp which might be symptomatic of a complaint that could affect his mental life.

The Judge said Campbell would receive medical attention in gaol.



Atom Feat By Chinese Scientists

Two Chinese scientists, working in Paris under French auspices, are reported to have succeeded in splitting an atom not only into two parts, but into three and four particles.

The couple, according to United Press, are Dr. Tsien Sun-ling and his wife, Dr. Ho Zah-wei.

France has at least seven scientists who profess to know how to make the atomic bomb but say they have no intention of producing it.

The leading nuclear physicist, Frederic Joliot-Curie said: "All our efforts are directed toward peaceful applications of exploding the atom."

The son of the famous Curies, who is chairman of France's Atomic Energy Commission, and four other physicists on the Commission are pushing a programme designed eventually to give France sufficient atomic energy to make dependence on coal unnecessary. They feel that such a development is necessary to make France a first-rate power.

Significant Discoveries

The Commission works in Paris and there are no guards. Since the war several significant discoveries were reported to have been made in Paris laboratories.

But with the limited budget, French scientists estimate that it will take two years for France to put atomic piles into operation and 20 years before atomic installations will be generating electricity.

MATCHBOX CAMERA

Cameras small enough to fit into a man's hand and resembling a box of safety matches aided Allied agents to snap photographs behind enemy lines during the war.

The Eastman Kodak Company reveals that 1,000 cameras and "vest-pocket" darkrooms were produced for the Office of Strategic Services and underground forces in enemy-held territory.

The camera, known as "match-box" camera, produces half-inch square pictures which can be enlarged many times. It made 30 exposures on film two feet long.

The miniature "darkroom," with chemicals in pill form, enabled agents to develop film in a small glass with a single jigger of solution.—Associated Press.

EX-WREN LOSES BREACH OF PROMISE ACTION

Faced with costs of nearly £400 because she lost her breach-of-promise action in the High Court, Pamela Audrey Keble, 24-year-old London ex-Wren, broke down as she left the court and said between her sobs: "What can I tell you? No, I have no other fiancé."

With her mother comforting her, this girl, described by Mr. Justice Lewis as "undoubtedly attractive to men, a young lady, who liked a good time," told a reporter: "It will take me a long time to get over this bitter experience."

Meanwhile, the man against whom she brought the action, handsome Geoffrey Tyndall Parker, 33-year-old ex-Squadron Leader D.F.C., of Coastal Command, was busy on his poultry farm at Liphook, Hants.

Told By Telegram

He was not in court when the judge announced: "However unpleasant or hard on Miss Keble it might be to have her engagement broken, Parker, I find, made out his case that she absolved him from his promise, and the action against him fails."

Said his solicitor: "Parker has got to catch up on arrears of work on his poultry farm."

NOW SHOWING **KINGS** At 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.



BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!
SUNDAY, 20th APRIL AT 11.30 A.M.
IRVING BERLIN'S "HOLIDAY INN"
with Bing CROSBY • Fred ASTAIRE — A Paramount Picture

SHOWING **QUEENS** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



— ADDED! MARCH OF TIME —
"ATOMIC POWER"
See unbelievable U.S. Army pictures of HIROSHIMA devastation never before released... explore a mysterious new universe with the very men who found the key to it!



THE HONG KONG STAGE CLUB
Presents
(BY COURTESY OF C.S.E.)
PRESENT LAUGHTER
BY NOEL COWARD
PRODUCED BY RICHARD VERNON

TO-NIGHT AT 7.30 P.M.

Booking Hours:—12 p.m.—2 p.m. 4 p.m.—6.30 p.m.

Telephone:—58335.

CATHAY —GRAND OPENING TO-DAY—
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
"ONE OF THIS YEAR'S 'THE BEST'"



Drafting Balkan Report

Geneva, Apr. 16. Sources close to the United Nations Balkan Investigating Commission said today that the Commission last night completed its narrative report on the Balkan border incident investigations and had started its interpretative report, over which the Russian and the Western nations are expected to differ.

Commission teams were named to draw up factual reports on the three main issues investigated—the Greco-Albanian, Greco-Bulgarian and Greco-Yugo-Slav frontier incidents—and on the basis of these reports the full Commission will try to work out conclusions and recommendations to the Security Council early next week.

Work was going on in great secrecy, one source said, because the Commission was faced with one of the United Nations' most delicate and explosive subjects.

Guerrilla General

The Russian and Polish delegates were having translated for circulation to Commission members their report of the meeting in Greece with the guerrilla commander, General Markos Vafiadis, who described himself as the commander-in-chief of the guerrillas. It is learned that the United States and United Kingdom members do not want the Vafiadis report included in the formal report of the Commission, but it may be added to the document as an annex.

Greek, Albanian, Bulgarian and Yugo-Slav observers who toured the Balkans with the Commission were not admitted to the meetings here, but played on in Geneva in case the Commission called them to give evidence for the report.—United Press.

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

WALES LOSES TO IRELAND

Belfast, Apr. 16. Ireland beat Wales two goals to one after both had scored once in the first half of the international soccer match here tonight.

The result allowed Ireland to leave the bottom place in the international table and find a way to England, this being the last match of the season's international championship.

For the first 20 minutes neither forward line, though clever, really worried the defence and the goalkeepers were seldom tested. The first danger was a Doherty header for Ireland, and then Wales were fortunate when a shot from Walsh glanced off the defender to pass the wrong side of the post with the goalkeeper at the other end of the goal.

The 27th minute saw Wales lead when Ford scored from the penalty spot after Morris was brought down in the area. Nine minutes later Ireland equalised following a free kick. Stevenson took the shot and drove hard against the wall of Welsh defenders just outside the penalty area, and he snapped up the rebound to score.

Ireland looked like leading just on half time, but Stevenson from four yards out shot straight at the goalkeeper.

Second Half Superiority

Generally speaking, there was lack of finish among the forwards, but Ireland deserved success because of second half superiority.

A fierce raid opened this period, but the Welsh defence held on and their forwards began to move, which ended with Edwards sending in a terrific shot which Hinton turned over the goal.

The Irish rightwing became more prominent and gave the Welsh defence an anxious time, but the defenders gave nothing away. Thirty-two minutes from the interval Doherty was pulled down in the penalty area and, taking the kick himself, scored what proved to be the winning goal. Thus, each side had a goal from "the spot."

Towards the end of the game a drizzle began to fall and continued for the rest of the game, in which Wales strove hard without success for the equaliser.—Reuter.

To Get Sugar Moving

Batavia, Apr. 16. Dr. A. K. Gani, Indonesian Economics Minister, disclosed today that the United States State Department has suggested that an American mediator be sent to Java to break the deadlock between the Indonesians and the Dutch, which is holding up shipments of thousands of tons of sugar to the world markets.

Dr. Gani said the suggestion was welcomed as it fitted in with the economic talks between the Dutch and the Indonesians.

The American plan was for a mediator to become chairman of an Indo-Dutch survey committee to work out a method to start sugar moving before December.—United Press.

Clothing Went Up In Flames

Berlin, Apr. 16. Many German women in Lucenburg, in the British zone, suffered severe burns, when their clothing went up in flames. Investigation showed they had purchased quantities of black market cloth made of highly-explosive gun cotton, probably stolen from British stores.

Authorities said great amounts of the cloth, which resembles silk, had reached the illegal market in Lucenburg.—Associated Press.

Alert Against Threat To Blow Up War Office

Scotland Yard tonight flashed a warning to all docks and airports in Great Britain to watch for a man and a woman after an anonymous telephone call which claimed to disclose the identity of "the man who put the bomb in the Colonial Office and is leaving the country tonight with a woman."

It is believed that this call may be a hoax, but it is also felt possible that the woman mentioned may be the one for whom a country-wide search has been going on ever since the discovery of a home-made bomb in the form of a parcel in the Colonial Office this morning and the statement that a woman of Jewish appearance obtained entry to the building yesterday carrying a parcel.

Dalton's Budget Attacked

London, Apr. 16. Sir John Anderson, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, leading the debate for the Conservative Opposition in the House of Commons today, said that the budget introduced yesterday showed that the Government gave no evidence of any real desire to save.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Hugh Dalton, in his opinion seemed to have neglected one of his first duties and talked of mounting expenditure in a complacent way. Sir John complained that with subsidies—mainly on food—amounting to the colossal total of £425,000,000, the steps that Mr. Dalton intended taking were still left somewhat obscure. The moment when relief from direct taxation was being provided appeared to him to be the suitable moment to bring subsidies down.

The imposition of a cheap mortgage policy, the Chancellor had omitted to call attention to some of the disadvantages. He had always said that there was danger in carrying the policy of reducing interest rates forward too quickly and too far.

He complained that in speaking of overseas deficits, Mr. Dalton had given only a "vague formula"—and no policy. No vital interest of Britain must be sacrificed in any pedantic attempt to deal with this wholly exceptional balance as though it had risen in the normal course of trade.

The imposition of an additional 10 percent stamp duty on bonus issues was not justified, he said. Insofar as bonus issues were not legitimate they could be prohibited, Sir John said, but did not the Chancellor recognise that there were many bonus issues which were justified from the point of view of presenting accurately to shareholders and the public the actual state of the capital of business?

He said that he thought the proposal would defeat its own object, because the proposal to levy this tax on such issues "will in a great many of legitimate cases prove prohibitive."

Profit Tax

In regard to the profit tax, Sir John disagreed with the discrimination which Mr. Dalton had made between distributed and undistributed profits.

Both Mr. Dalton's objects in proposing an increase in the tax on tobacco—to reduce dollar expenditure and to effect some transfer from direct to indirect taxation—were considered legitimate. The margin of preference which was retained was retained at the old money figure which, in relation to the increased amount, was in his opinion wholly derisory.

Sir John Anderson concluded: "In my judgment this budget has been a budget of expediency, of shifts and devices, some commendable, some trivial and some positively mischievous."—Reuter.

ENGAGEMENT ANTICIPATED

Ottawa, Apr. 17. The Ottawa Morning Citizen said on Wednesday that it was understood "on the highest authority" that the engagement of Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten will be announced next Monday, the Princess's birthday.

The newspaper added: "It is anticipated that the engagement announcement will be made by His Majesty the King himself from South Africa possibly following the speech the princess is to make on the occasion of her 21st birthday."—Associated Press.

Further Extension Of American Interest In Middle East Forecast

Cairo, Apr. 16. Financial aid to Greece and Turkey is only the first step towards further United States action in the Middle East, where political observers believe that the future will see American mediation in the Anglo-Egyptian dispute, a new policy regarding Palestine and increased American interest in the Arab World and Iran. The observers consider that these things are the natural consequence of America's new policy.

Alert Against Threat To Blow Up War Office

Scotland Yard tonight flashed a warning to all docks and airports in Great Britain to watch for a man and a woman after an anonymous telephone call which claimed to disclose the identity of "the man who put the bomb in the Colonial Office and is leaving the country tonight with a woman."

It is believed that this call may be a hoax, but it is also felt possible that the woman mentioned may be the one for whom a country-wide search has been going on ever since the discovery of a home-made bomb in the form of a parcel in the Colonial Office this morning and the statement that a woman of Jewish appearance obtained entry to the building yesterday carrying a parcel.

Special Branch officers have a full description and are confident they know the woman's identity. The woman is about 150 centimetres tall, and between 25 and 30 years of age.

In the meantime, Scotland Yard officers were rushed to the War Office following a telephone threat this afternoon that the building was to be blown up.

The information was received by telephone from an anonymous caller, who said: "There is an organisation which is going to blow up the War Office at 4 p.m. today." The caller then rang off.

War Office Searched

Officers searched the War Office building but, it is understood, nothing suspicious was found. It is now revealed that the woman of Jewish appearance carrying a parcel, who was permitted to enter the Colonial Office, where the explosives were found, went in to "repair a ladder in her stocking."

A more detailed examination of the parcel found in the ladies' cloakroom early today showed that it contained 24 sticks of a French explosive—not gelignite—of a type not common in Britain.

Experts stated that it had definitely come from the Continent. Attached to the explosive were a watch and a time fuse which was badly connected and unlikely to act.

Precautions Strengthened

When the woman asked the door attendant if she could go to the ladies' room to fix a ladder in her stocking, the attendant had difficulty in understanding her. Police enquiries have taken them outside London, and it is understood that further enquiries will be made outside Britain.

After close examination of the explosives, experts said that the damage would not have been as great as first estimated. In a small or fair sized room it would have blown the furniture but not caused structural damage.

The special precautions already in force in Government buildings have been strengthened.—Reuter.

Alleged Bribing Of M.P.'s

London, Apr. 16. The complaint made in the House of Commons today that a Labour Party member in effect accused lobby journalists of bribing Members of Parliament with drink to obtain disclosure of Party secret information was referred to the Committee of Privileges for investigation.

Mr. Quintin Hogg, Conservative, submitted to Parliament a copy of the journalists' trade paper, World's Press News, containing an article purported to be written by the Labourite, Mr. Harry Allighan, which, he said, contained "four or five major breaches of privilege" of Parliament.

The article dealt with the manner in which matters discussed at Party meetings became published in the press, although the press was not admitted. It said that newspapers obtained information by paying Members for it, by paying them a retaining fee and by reporters treating Members of Parliament at the bar and getting them to talk.

Mr. Hogg said: "There is deliberate charge of corruption against lobby journalists and the House of Commons" and asked that the matter should be referred to the Committee of Privileges.

The Speaker of the House ruled that a prima facie case of breach of privileges had been made out and the matter was referred to the committee.—Reuter.

Iraq Withdrawal

London, Apr. 16. All British land forces will be withdrawn from Iraq by the autumn, it is learned here today. It is also learned that the troops affected are those additional Army units stationed in Iraq during the war to strengthen the dispositions in the Middle East.

Air Force contingents, including ground staff, which under the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty of Alliance are stationed at Habbaniyah and Shaibah, will remain.—Reuter.

President Truman's historic speech will bring the United States greater international responsibilities than ever before, and it has also forced governments everywhere to revise their foreign policy in the light of American participation in global politics.

Nowhere, except possibly in Germany, will the new policy have as much effect as in the Middle East. And nowhere will the United States have a more difficult or more delicate task than in this vital, explosive area—the oil depot of the world, the land bridge between the West and the Far East, the gigantic buffer between Russia and the democracies.

In Iran, Soviet interference resulted in the dramatic fights before the United Nations, where the United States and Russia were the principal opponents. Later, in December, 1946, came the final settlement of the Communist-led regime of Azerbaijan. It is an open secret that the encouragement of America played a great role in deciding the Iranian Government to attack the Azerbaijan rebel forces and force them to surrender.

Iranian Army

The rebel leaders fled to Russia, where they have been given refuge. Then Premier Ghamashy Sultanzadeh started his programme of reforms, which will cost millions of dollars, mainly coming from the International Bank and the United States. American experts are already studying the country's social and economic conditions to start the drive aimed at raising the standard of living so as to prevent the disheartened masses from turning to Communism and Soviet Russia.

Experts on the Middle East—whether American, British or Middle Easterners—admit that more financial help to Greece and Turkey will not stop Russian political infiltration into this area. This help will permit Greece and Turkey to regain their stability, enabling them to oppose Communist political infiltration, but these measures alone cannot prevent the spread of Communist ideas into the Middle East.

In fact, Communist groups exist throughout this region, and the battle of ideologies is now raging in the entire Arab and Middle East world.

Moral Support From West

The existing government are making every effort to combat the spread of Communism, and while perhaps not always employing the best or most effective methods, they have the moral support of the Western powers. On the other hand, the local Communist groups have at least the sympathy, if not the active support, of the Russians.

The Iranian Army will be modernised. This will mean large-scale purchase of military equipment. For the last several months Russia and the United States have been trying to convince the Iranians to let them modernise the army. The latest reports indicate that the Americans will be asked to re-equip the Imperial Forces of Persia. The United States has thus scored another point in their fight to prevent Soviet penetration.—United Press.

Congress Surprised

Washington, Apr. 16. President Truman's request for authority to halt munitions shipments to nations considered the United States potential enemies today caught most Congressional leaders by surprise.

Although many considered the request to make the long-standing Neutrality Act valid, they wanted more time to study its implications. Senate President Arthur Vandenberg declined to comment saying he was not informed of it in advance. Senator Glen Taylor, outspoken foe of the Greek-Turkish aid programme, said the request was "unassailable and I will vote for it."

Career Russian Haters Said Rule U.S. Embassy

Moscow, Apr. 16. Mr. Armand D. Willis, Director of the United States Information Service here, today charged that "career Russian haters" dominated the American Embassy in Moscow.

He said they effectively scuttled attempts to improve the exchange of information and cultural relations with the Russians.

Mr. Willis made the charges as he left for Washington to "report and do resign."

He said foreign service officers surrounding Ambassador Bedell Smith deliberately prevented him from doing his job for the State Department's office of international information and cultural affairs.

He said these officials choke off all information even slightly favourable to the Russians by controlling the Embassy's "channels" directing all communications to go through them.

"They will not let anything out of here that would let anybody think we can get along with the Russians," said Willis.

"They built their reputations and careers on being Russian-haters," he said.

TELEPHONE STRIKE DEADLOCK

Washington, Apr. 16. Mr. Joseph Beine, President of the striking National Federation of Telephone Workers, said today that only a company wage offer would break the deadlock.

Aid Measure Approved

Washington, Apr. 16. The House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee tonight approved the measure to give aid to Greece and Turkey.

The Senate Committee has already approved the measure.—Reuter.

TEXAS CITY EXPLOSIONS

(Continued From Page 1)

sands of people wandering about still dazed by the explosion. Captain M. Simpson, Chief of Police in Houston, 35 miles from the scene of the explosion, told Reuter's Correspondent at New York over the trans-continental telephone tonight that Houston was being transformed into a refuge for hundreds of injured, who were arriving there every minute. He said that nearly all his men had been "shipped" to Texas City to help in the rescue work. The injured are being treated at the Houston Auditorium which has been transformed into an emergency first-aid station.

"We quickly commandeered ambulances, trucks and every available vehicle and despatched as many officers as possible to the stricken area," he said. "It was not long before the first batch of injured was brought here for treatment. Doctors and nurses at Houston were ordered to the Auditorium to help in relieving the victims, many of whom were women and children."

New Orleans reports tonight said that the explosions in Texas City were continuing. It is estimated that the death toll might finally be 1,000. The Columbia Broadcasting System radio commentator from the scene confirmed that explosions were still occurring and more blasts were expected almost six hours after the original explosion.—Reuter.

GOERING'S Millions Seized

London, Apr. 16. Mr. John Hynd, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister responsible for British administration in Germany, told the House of Commons today that Britain had seized 4,000,000 marks worth of assets belonging to Hermann Goering in the British zone of Germany, but had failed to find trace of any personal assets of the former Reichsmarshall abroad.

Also seized in the British zone, Mr. Hynd revealed, were assets worth 690,000 marks belonging to the former foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop, 721,000 marks belonging to Franz von Papen, 657,000 marks belonging to Alfred Rosenberg, 1,045,000 marks belonging to Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, and 153,000 marks belonging to Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz.

Mr. Hynd said the assets were being held pending four-power agreement on their disposal. He said Britain had been unable to find trace of any personal property abroad belonging to any of the other Nazi leaders named.

He added that he had no information regarding the disposal of art treasures found in Karinhall, Goering's estate in the Soviet zone.—United Press.

PUSHBUTTON WAR NOT YET PRACTICAL

Washington, Apr. 16. General Jacob L. Devers, commander of Army ground forces, told the United Press that the United States had more to fear from the fifth column than from the atomic bomb in case of attack.

He said that any nation attacking the United States would use the atomic bomb sparingly "if at all," because it wanted to utilise, not destroy, a conquered country's industrial potential.

"It would be easier to soften up by sabotage," General Devers said. "A fifth column which blew up bridges around New York City would be more practical than an atom bomb."

He added that talk of pushbutton warfare was greatly exaggerated because guided missiles in their present stage were too inaccurate.—United Press.

GOERING'S Millions Seized

London, Apr. 16. Mr. John Hynd, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister responsible for British administration in Germany, told the House of Commons today that Britain had seized 4,000,000 marks worth of assets belonging to Hermann Goering in the British zone of Germany, but had failed to find trace of any personal assets of the former Reichsmarshall abroad.

Also seized in the British zone, Mr. Hynd revealed, were assets worth 690,000 marks belonging to the former foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop, 721,000 marks belonging to Franz von Papen, 657,000 marks belonging to Alfred Rosenberg, 1,045,000 marks belonging to Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, and 153,000 marks belonging to Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz.

Mr. Hynd said the assets were being held pending four-power agreement on their disposal. He said Britain had been unable to find trace of any personal property abroad belonging to any of the other Nazi leaders named.

He added that he had no information regarding the disposal of art treasures found in Karinhall, Goering's estate in the Soviet zone.—United Press.

Greek Trade Union Leader Killed

Athens, Apr. 16. Political opponents, alleged to be Communists, killed Christos Contopoulos, the Greek Trade Union (Centre) leader, the Greek news agency reported tonight.

The Committee of the General Confederation of Greek Workers has expressed its "reprobation" of the crime, the Greek agency said.—Reuter.

PUSHBUTTON WAR NOT YET PRACTICAL

Washington, Apr. 16. General Jacob L. Devers, commander of Army ground forces, told the United Press that the United States had more to fear from the fifth column than from the atomic bomb in case of attack.

He said that any nation attacking the United States would use the atomic bomb sparingly "if at all," because it wanted to utilise, not destroy, a conquered country's industrial potential.

"It would be easier to soften up by sabotage," General Devers said. "A fifth column which blew up bridges around New York City would be more practical than an atom bomb."

He added that talk of pushbutton warfare was greatly exaggerated because guided missiles in their present stage were too inaccurate.—United Press.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Post close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below:

Thursday, April 17

Singapore, Bangkok (Sea) 3 p.m.
Straits (Sea) 3 p.m.
Amoy (Sea) 3 p.m.
Shanghai, U.S.A. Central and South America, Canada (via San Francisco) (No parcels for Canada) (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kongmoon (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Tainan, Shekhi (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Train) 4 p.m.
Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland, London (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Beijing (Air) 3.30 p.m.

Friday, April 18

Manila (Air) 10 a.m.
Pakhoi (Sea) 10 a.m.
Haiphong (Sea) 10 a.m.
Straits (Sea) 10 a.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 10 a.m.
Kongmoon (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Tainan, Shekhi (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Train) 4 p.m.
Bangkok, Hongkong, Calcutta, Karachi, Basra, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Marcella, London, New York, Canada (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Saigon, Paris (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Canton, Hanoi, Kuning, Amoy, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking and Chungking (Air) 3.30 p.m.

Saturday, April 19

Manila (Air) 10 a.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 10 a.m.
Amoy (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.
Macao, Tainan, Shekhi (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Train) 4 p.m.
Bangkok, Singapore, Colombo, Sourabaya, Sydney, Auckland (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Saigon, Rangoon, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg and Cairo (Air) 3.30 p.m.

(Between the Bank of China and the National City Bank of New York.)

Sunday 11 a.m. Breaking-of-Bread.
Sunday 8 p.m. Gospel Meeting.
Tuesday 8 p.m. Bible Study (John 15).
Thursday 8 p.m. Prayer Meeting.
Saturday 11 p.m. Special Address on the "Pasarnac."

Printed and published by Frederick

Percy Franklin for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

CHURCH NOTICE

GOSPEL HALL, Duddell Street

(Between the Bank of China and the National City Bank of New York.)

Sunday 11 a.m. Breaking-of-Bread.
Sunday 8 p.m. Gospel Meeting.
Tuesday 8 p.m. Bible Study (John 15).
Thursday 8 p.m. Prayer Meeting.
Saturday 11 p.m. Special Address on the "Pasarnac."

Printed and published by Frederick

Percy Franklin for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

Thayer Folding BABY CARRIAGES

CHOICE of PROUD PARENTS

Exclusively Sold AT JONES WONG & CO. FURNISHING DEPT.

184 Nathan Road Near Austin Road Phone 58430.

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW MAJESTIC

SPECTACULAR! OUTDOOR THRILLS! WALLACE BEERY Margaret O'BRIEN in "BAD BASCOMB"

AN M-G-M PICTURE COMMENCING SATURDAY Charles LAUGHTON in "CAPTAIN KIDD"